

117185

ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

HISTORIC PROPERTY NAME Tempe Beach Stadium	
COMMON PROPERTY NAME	
PROPERTY LOCATION-STREET & NO. Ash Avenue at First Street	
CITY, TOWN/VICINITY OF Tempe	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 132-20-12
OWNER OF PROPERTY City of Tempe	PHONE
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX	
CITY, TOWN	STATE ZIP
FORM PREPARED BY Janus Associates	DATE 1/83
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX 2121 S. Priest, Suite 127	PHONE 967-7117
CITY, TOWN Tempe	STATE ZIP Arizona 85282
PHOTO BY Tempe Historical Society	DATE 1981
VIEW looking northwest	
HISTORIC USE recreation	
PRESENT USE abandoned	ACREAGE 1.8
ARCHITECT/BUILDER	
CONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION DATES	

COUNTY Maricopa	INVENTORY NO. 190
QUAD/COUNTY MAP Tempe Quad	
CURRENT BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPH	



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

This terraced bleacher is built of river cobbles and has concrete benches faced with cobbles. Low walls surrounding the stadium are of cobbles with concrete caps. The front wall is divided into bays by cobble pilasters. The stadium bleachers face east, being constructed into the embankment of the former highway bridge approach.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE/HISTORY

Tempe Beach Stadium is significant for its association with the historical development of Tempe's first recreation park. The river frontage known as Tempe Beach was popular as early as 1916. A large public pool was constructed under the direction of Neils Stolberg (#218,219,220) in 1923 on the north side of First Street west of Mill Avenue. In 1927 the City acquired the property from the pool west to the highway at Ash Avenue, and a band stand was erected using cobblestones. In 1928 a baseball field was laid out in that area to the west. With the construction of the Mill Avenue bridge (#226 - 1929-1931), development of the park continued to shift to the west. In 1934 the Tempe Beach committee, headed by Garfield Goodwin, began construction of a cobblestone wall around the entire park and the development of the stadium bleachers. This use of cobblestone is unique and once extended to all of the park structure. With construction of the new pool in the 1960's, much of this cobblestone work was lost.

SOURCES OF ABOVE INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY

Tempe Daily News, various issues

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA/LEGAL DESCRIPTION/VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 15, TIN, R4E

Tempe Quad

Z-12, E-412400, N-3699140

As shown on the accompanying aerial photograph, the boundary of the nominated property includes the intact portions of the Tempe Beach Stadium and Ballfield. This area is an approximately 1.8 acre parcel measuring 282 feet on the south, 270 feet on the east, 270 feet on the north, and 290 feet on the west. The site includes all of the remaining cobblestone structure on the south and east sides.

GENERAL COMMENTS/FUTURE PLANS FOR PROPERTY



MILL AVE.

MILL

270.0 Ft.

BALLFIELD

270.0 Ft.

290.0 Ft.

282.0'

TEMPE BEACH STADIUM AND WALL

1ST

ASH AVE

ST

TEMPE, ARIZONA.

SCALE - 1" = 100'